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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON 8537
BT
[redacted] STATE 266022
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PDIP, ,O
SUBJECT: HOUSE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION
1. G. ROBERT BLAKEY, CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR, SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING MURDER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING, HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT OF COMMITTEE'S DESIRES TO PURSUE LEADS IN PORTUGAL, UK AND MEXICO RELATING TO JAMES EARL RAY, SELF-CONFESSED MURDERER OF KING. WE ARE INFORMED THAT RAY WAS IN LISBON BRIEFLY IN MAY 1968, SHORTLY BEFORE BEING APPREHENDED IN LONDON THE FOLLOWING MONTH. BLAKEY SAYS SELECT COMMITTEE WANTS TO ESTABLISH "CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH APPROPRIATE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL POLICE AND HOPES TO ENLIST THEIR ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING ACCESS TO THEIR FILES AND AID IN LOCATING AND INTERVIEWING ANY POTENTIAL WITNESSES.
2. WE WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY'S SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW BLAKEY SHOULD PROCEED, BEARING IN MIND THE CHANGES IN PORTUGUESE RECORDS AND PERSONNEL SINCE THE APRIL 1974 REVOLUTION. VANCE

OPG - info
(2) file Committee on Assassinations

H.S.C.A.
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